

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

DEPART TO SERVE

SEPTEMBER 17, 2017

CHORAL EVENSONG This afternoon, *Sunday, September 17, at 4 p.m.*, the First Church Choir with organist Tyler Robertson will present music of Bryan Kelly, James Turle, William H. Harris and Kevin Jones in this first of monthly evensongs.

NEXT SUNDAY - FORMATIVE DISCUSSIONS FOR ADULTS- SUNDAY AT 10 A.M. "The Vocabulary of Gender Identity & Sexual Orientation for the Faith Community" Join us next Sunday for a great presentation and discussion on how we continue to learn and welcome the Trans* Community at First Church. We will also begin discussions on Gender Identity and the importance of the words we use to welcome all to our faith community. Many people have questions, so we are providing this opportunity to grow in our faith and understanding in a loving and embracing faith community. The two-week sessions will be led by Stonewall Columbus and held in Room C of the Education Wing. Many resources will be available to take home.

RESOURCES FOR PARENTS There are wonderful books in the Alma Keeler Library concerning Social Justice and Race Consciousness. Also, many parent resources will continue to be posted on the First Church Facebook page.

COMMUNITY RESOURCE FROM THE SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER on "Ten Ways to Fight Hate" is available at the entrance to the worship space.

PEW MODIFICATIONS The project to modify pews in the Sanctuary for ADA accommodation is nearly complete! Based on conversations with members of the congregation and forums hosted by the Deacons and House and Grounds, a plan to modify pew areas to provide better accommodation for those in wheelchairs, scooters and walkers was put together and approved by Council. Last Monday, a volunteer crew moved several pews. Thank you to all who helped. Muller Pipe Organ completed the modification of other pews and rails. Mark Dahnke saw to securing pews and rails to the floor, installing vent covers, and other details. Remaining work will include adjusting the spacing between several pews in the east Transept and modifying pew cushions.



ORGAN RECITAL Minister of Music Kevin Jones presents his annual organ recital on *Friday, September 22, at 7:30 p.m.* playing music of Jehan Alain, J.S. Bach, Dieterich Buxtehude, César Franck and Johann Pachelbel on both Beckerath and Kimball organs.

FIRST CHURCH WALKING TOUR On *Saturday, September 23*, Rev. Tim will lead a walk through our history in downtown Columbus, leaving the church at 10:30 a.m., having lunch on the way and returning to 444 East Broad St. by 2:30 p.m. Email Rev. Tim at tahrens@first.church.org if you plan to attend.



GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE: THE EVIDENCE, CHALLENGES AND OUR OPTIONS On *Sunday, October 1 at 1 p.m.*, First Congregational Church welcomes **Dr. Ellen Mosley-Thompson**, Director of the Byrd Polar and Climate Research Center and Distinguished University Professor in the Department of Geography at The Ohio State University for a critical discussion on climate change when she presents *Global Climate Change: The Evidence, Challenges and Our Options*. Dr. Mosley-Thompson is a paleoclimatologist who uses the chemical and physical properties of ice cores collected from ice sheets and mountain ice fields to reconstruct the Earth's climate history. Come hear about these core indicators of climate change and how we as citizens and people of faith can respond and advocate on this critical issue. Join us for Fellowship Hour immediately following 11 a.m. worship for a buffet of delicious snacks in Parish Hall. Sacred Earth is sponsoring this lunch, learn and advocate opportunity for all who care for our Earth.

OF NOTE... We are updating and renewing our materials for both services. For the 9 a.m. service, interim friendship information pads with pens are at tables and on the chairs at the end of each row to be passed and signed. For the 11 a.m. service, interim friendship information pads with pens are located on the center aisle end of each pew to be passed and signed. We encourage you to please sign and pass the pads to your pew mates so you can greet one another by name. Additionally, please include any updated information or requests for visits on the pads so we can update our records or arrange for a visit.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MEMBERS Don Erickson; Ray Pendell; and families and friends who mourn the loss of loved ones, including Susan Sitler, on the death of her mother, Ruth L. Sitler.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY Lois Ann Shearer, aunt of Valerie Conlin-Losinski; Dick Kevan, husband of Jan Kevan; Patricia Lightbody, mother of Mary Lightbody; Jana Padilla, friend of Jenny Provenzano; Don and Jane Mead, parents of Cindy Deliman; Marjorie Kufel, mother of Sharon Leidheiser; Rev. Roger Miller; and families and friends who continue to mourn the loss of loved ones.

THROUGHOUT THE WORLD We pray for the people in the Northwestern United States who have endured 200 wildfires. We pray for the victims of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma, for those displaced by storms and devastating rain. We pray for the victims of the earthquake in Mexico City. We pray for the people of Venezuela.

IN GOD'S HANDS: THE ECUMENICAL PRAYER CYCLE This week we pray with and for the people and churches of Argentina, Paraguay, and Uruguay.

MISSIONARIES This week we pray for Victor and Sara Makari, serving in Israel/Palestine.

NEED PRAYER? If you have any prayer requests or joys to share, please contact Amy Wagner, Office Manager at awagner@first-church.org or 614-228-1741, ext. 10 or one of the ministers: ecorzine@first-church.org or 614-228-1741, ext. 21, or tahrens@first-church.org or 614-228-1741, ext. 13.

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK 9/18 – Anthony Brown, Jim Monsul, Christopher Washington; 9/19 – John Bachman, Ava Leidheiser; 9/20 – Jim Gallagher, Randy Hoffman, Keith Kulwicki; 9/21 – Shannon Washington; 9/22 – Janette Hoffman; 9/23 Victor John, Stan Lange

MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK 9/19 – Kathryn and Shea Watts; 9/21 – Susan and Bill Rhoads

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Sunday, September 17

9 a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion – Parish Hall
9 a.m. – Exultate Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
9 a.m. – Jubilate Choir Rehearsal – Music Activities Room
10 a.m. – Faith Formation Time – Education Wing
11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary
Noon – Fellowship Hour – Parish Hall
4 p.m. – Choral Evensong – Sanctuary
6 p.m. – Middle and High School Youth – Parish Hall

Monday, September 18

12 noon – Care Ministry Luncheon – Ralph Fanning Room
7 p.m. – Personnel – Parish Family Room

Tuesday, September 19

11:30 a.m. – Worship Planning – Parish Family Room
7 p.m. – Council – Ralph Fanning Room

Wednesday, September 20

11:00 a.m. – Book Study – Parlor
1 p.m. – Deadline for October Newsletter

Thursday, September 21

6 p.m. – First Church Ringers Rehearsal – Education Wing Room J
7:15 p.m. – First Church Choir Rehearsal – Parish Hall

Friday, September 22

1 p.m. – Faith Mission Meal Preparation – Kitchen
7:30 p.m. – Congregational Concert: Kevin Jones Organ Recital – Sanctuary

Sunday, September 24: Celebration of Legacy Sunday

9 a.m. – Worship: Morning Prayer and Holy Communion – Sanctuary
9 a.m. – Exultate/Jubilate Choirs – Choir and Music Activities Rooms
10 a.m. – First Church Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
10 a.m. – Faith Formation Time – Education Wing, Rooms C and D
11 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary
Noon – Legacy Sunday Party – West Lot

NURSERY WORKER POSITION AVAILABLE Due to a nursery staff member moving, a nursery position is available. Please see Mark Williams, mwilliams@first-church.org about the job description and requirements for the position.

ABOUT YOUR OFFERING TODAY All our offerings support the Ministry of First Church through its programs, outreach, and related groups as, together, we witness to God's love. Thank you for your gifts.

- **Offertory envelopes** are provided in the pews for members or visitors.
- **Submitting a pledge?** Please use those envelopes, marking the "Pledge" box.
- **Church Support:** Checking this box directs your gift to general ministry support.
- **Mission:** Please specify today's mission so your gift is distributed correctly.
- **Online Giving:** Go to our web site www.first-church.org click on **Give** or <http://www.first-church.org/give.aspx> and then click or copy the link into your browser to set up an account and pay with your credit card or through your checking or savings account.

easyTithe

<http://www.easytithe.com/dl/?uid=Firs444421>

PayPal

<https://www.paypal.com/signup/accountCreate>



- **Other Gifts:** Please designate your intention: *Memorials, flowers, fund raising projects, music, education, etc.*



OFFERING TOTAL FOR LAST WEEK'S MISSION

September 10 – \$637.29 – CelebrateOne

NEXT WEEK'S MISSION OFFERING

Building Endowment Fund

COPIES OF TODAY'S SERMON can be found in the office or at the Broad Street entrance to the Sanctuary.

Parent/ Children Worship Resources

A Worship Activity Pak for Parents and Children, crayons and Children's Bulletins are available at each entrance. Included in the pack is a wonderful coloring book, "Be The Church," that teaches wonderful lessons about who we are as a faith community. Ask an Usher/Greeter or Deacon for your very own copy!

444 EAST BROAD STREET, COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215-3885

PHONE: 614.228.1741 FAX: 614.461.1741

WWW.FIRST-CHURCH.ORG

CHURCH STAFF

Senior Minister	Timothy C. Ahrens, D. Min.
Associate Minister	Emily Krause Corzine, M. Div.
Minister of Music	Kevin Jones, M. M.
Director of Christian Education	Mark S. Williams, M. Ed.
Commissioned Minister for Social Justice	Tom Brownfield
Commissioned Minister for Spiritual Formation and Direction	Jacquelyn Dean
Organist/Choirmaster Emeritus	G. Dene Barnard
Treble Choir Director	Sandra Mathias, Ph.D.
Business Manager	Sharon Leidheiser
Program Manager	Martha Worth
Office Manager	Amy Wagner
Building & Grounds Superintendent	Mark Dahnke
Custodians	William Lee, Jimmy Sibrian
Wedding Coordinators	Janet Axt, Margaret Cipriani, Diana Chandler, Amy Wagner, Katie Wagner
Nursery Staff	Evin Wimberly, Simone Ellerson, Natalie Barker, Taylre Arnold

DIACONATE

Senior Deacon	Alec Deitz
Deacons	Kris Brant, Anthony Brown, Valerie Conlin-Losinski, Bert Cook, Martha Fullemann, Dean Hafey, Todd Jacobson, Karen Mozingo, David Nassau, Janet Newcity, Jorge Polo, Alejandro Rodriguez, Hugh Schultz

CHURCH COUNCIL

Moderator	Kent Shimeall
Moderator-Elect	Joe Baszynski
Treasurer	David Holt
Assistant Treasurer	Joe Hoffman
Secretary	Pat Patterson
Assistant Secretary	Nancy Loy

COMMISSIONERS

Administration	Sue Cook, Elect - Chris Glaros
Church Growth/Vitality	Kent Rambo and Mary Anne Jacobson, co-chairs; Elect - Tom Kiesel and Mary Anne Jacobson
Education	Helen Ninos, Elect - Chris Gelpi
House & Grounds	Eric Klintworth, Elect - Gary Leidheiser
Justice & Mercy	Al Glover, Elect - Dawn George
Music, Arts, & Heritage	Sharon Ferguson, Elect - Joel Mathias
Nominating Chair	Brian Cave
Member-at-large	Neal Brower
Youth-at-large	Joe Spofforth
Deacon Council Representative	Janet Newcity

TRUSTEES

Chairperson	Lisa Morris
Treasurer	Bill Johannes
Trustees	Chris Farquhar, Francille Firebaugh, Tom Hadley, Bill Heer, Lisa Morris, Sheldon Taft, Keith White, Gerry Worth

“Speaking of Faith”

Conversations with Six Different “Faith” Communities

by Rev. Dr. Tim Ahrens

Beginning October 2, we will have a new class – open to all people everywhere – called “Speaking of Faith”. Ms. Karen Patterson and I will co-facilitate this class. We will go for field trip visits to places of worship and will hold conversations on five faith traditions and one night with people who are exploring spirituality. These classes will run from 7 – 9 a.m.

Here is the preliminary line-up of weeks and faith traditions:

Monday, October 2 – Judaism

Tuesday, November 7 – Buddhism

Monday, December 4 – Spiritual But Not Religious

Monday, January 8 (Second Monday) – Hinduism

Monday, February 5 – Christianity

Monday, March 5 – Islam

The purpose of this class is not for a simple “101” on the faith, but teaching time combined with in-depth conversations with the people who practice the faith.

Sign me up!

Name: _____

Email address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

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